



ASA HUTCHINSON  
GOVERNOR

# ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION  
ARKANSAS LIVESTOCK & POULTRY COMMISSION  
ARKANSAS STATE PLANT BOARD

1 NATURAL RESOURCES DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205 | (501) 225-1598 | AAD.ARKANSAS.GOV



WES WARD  
SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

March 8, 2019

The Honorable Larry Teague  
Arkansas Senate  
State Capitol

The Honorable Lane Jean  
Arkansas House of Representatives  
State Capitol

Re: Arkansas Forestry Commission monthly activity report for February 2019

Dear Senator Teague and Representative Jean:

Per Section 42 of Act 841 of the 2018 Regular Session, the Arkansas Forestry Commission (AFC) is to report monthly fiscal and agency activities to the Arkansas Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee when the Legislature is in session. Please find attached the report for February 2019.

Representative Bruce Westerman visited the AFC Central Dispatch, Aviation Department and the District 5 Headquarters in February. The main reason for his visit was to witness the need for high speed internet in rural areas. AFC's Dispatch Center, a statewide, 24/7 manned asset, uses high tech tracking and dispatch programs to ensure crews are dispatched to emergency situations. These programs require high speed internet to operate correctly.

Representative Westerman also learned about the AFC's aviation program, fire detection, and the district fire suppression abilities.

Other personnel attending were the Mayor and County Judge of Malvern. All in attendance was impressed with AFC operations and understood the need for more and faster internet capabilities.

Respectfully yours,

ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION

Mark Cutrer

cc: DFA Director Larry Walther  
Secretary of Agriculture Wes Ward





## ARKANSAS FORESTRY COMMISSION February 2019 Activity and Fiscal Report

### FIRE PROTECTION

**Wildfires:** During February a total of 14 wildfires were suppressed for a total of 85 acres burned. Ten-year average for the month of February is 161 wildfires for 2897 acres burned.

**Storm Damage Assistance:** An AFC crew assisted in clearing roads of storm debris using dozers and chainsaws. The roads cleared were located southeast of Yellville in Marion County.

An AFC ranger assisted in clearing storm debris from Highway 43 S in Boone County.

**Rural Fire Protection:** Rural Fire Protection (RFP) assists fire departments (FDs) with organization, training and equipment. RFP provides interest-free loans, secures firefighting and emergency service equipment from the federal government, and administers a federal grant to assist approximately 1,000 fire departments. The RFP shop provides maintenance to property destined for FDs and repairs AFC equipment.

February 2019

- 88 fire departments, (227 firefighters), were provided wildland fire training, 23 minority departments and three AFC/AAD personnel were in attendance.
- RFP received six brush trucks (valued at \$852,792.00), two generators (valued at \$35,773.00), a 1995 forklift (valued at \$23,350.00) and a 2012 side by side (valued at \$11,810.15).
- There were seven Department of Defense (DOD) vehicles, two Freightliners (valued at \$237,055.00), five brush trucks (valued at \$598,142.00) and one generator (valued at \$23,738.00) issued to FDs.
- 778 DOD Recycling Control Point (RCP) items were received for redistribution to FDs and AFC (valued at \$72,282.72) to include, heating blankets, medic bags, spine boards, hose assemblies, stethoscopes, and nomex face shields.
- The RFP shop completed maintenance on 13 AFC vehicles and equipment as well as five DOD vehicles.

- RFP provided three interest free loans via the Rural Fire Revolving Loan Fund.

Sunset VFD	Water Skid Unit	\$7,087.50	D-6	Washington Co.
Central Fire Protection	'03 freightliner	\$11,769.35	D-3	Poinsett Co.
Bauxite VFD	Lights, Sirens, ETC.	\$10,768.10	D-5	Saline Co.

- 2018 VFA Grant: PO was issued for remaining PPE order. We still expect delivery sometime in the latter part of March. Funds were available for two additional kits and items have been ordered.

**Firewise:** Firewise staff and district personnel work with fire departments and civic organizations to make communities safer from the threat of wildfire through mitigation projects and community education initiatives. Arkansas has 82 active Firewise communities. Recognized communities display Firewise signs at the city limits.

Firewise achieved the following in **February:**

- Delivered one Initial Training.
- Delivered one Risk Assessment Training.
- Assisted one community with re-assessment paperwork and grant application.
- Met with three communities to discuss returning to the program.
- Presented program update at District Forester's Meeting.
- Assisted one community with paperwork.
- Delivered program overview and update to D7 personnel.

**Law Enforcement:** AAD has the authority to enforce the laws of the State of Arkansas, but primarily on unlawful dumping, timber theft, forest fires, and forestry equipment theft and focuses vandalism. AAD aggressively seeks prosecution of violators to deter such crimes. AAD Investigators and district law enforcement officers opened four dumping and ten timber theft cases. They closed three dumping, six fire related and six timber theft cases.

## **FOREST MANAGEMENT**

**Forest Stewardship/Rural Forestry Assistance Programs:** AFC works with a diverse group of partners and professionals to conserve, protect, and enhance Arkansas's forests. The Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) is an opportunity for non-industrial private forest landowners who are interested in managing their property for wildlife, recreation, soil and water conservation, agro-forestry and/or for timber production to get a comprehensive multiple use forest management plan that is prepared by private consulting or AFC foresters, private consulting or AGFC private lands wildlife biologists, and USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service soil and water professionals. Arkansas has 397,403 acres of private land actively enrolled in the Forest Stewardship Program. Landowners that implement practices under their FSP management plans become Certified Forest Stewards. There are 1,240 Forest Stewards owning 278,067 acres in the State.

For February, 14 FSP plans were prepared on 765 acres. In addition, AFC personnel provide technical assistance through the rural forestry program to landowners that are enrolled in USDA tree planting and forest management programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wetland Reserve Program, and AFC Southern Pine Beetle Prevention and Restoration Program. AFC foresters prepared 31 forest management practice plans on 2,969 acres. AFC personnel conducted two prescribed burns on 84 acres.

**Forest Health:** The Forest Health Specialist assists AFC personnel statewide in efforts to maintain healthy, productive forest ecosystems by preventing, detecting, monitoring, and suppressing damaging insects and diseases. AFC offers technical assistance to landowners who encounter forest health issues.

- AFC partnered with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission to restore native flowering plants to the Poison Springs State Forest. **Pollinator friendly plants** were seeded into various openings on the state forest. The restoration target is 20 acres.
- Staff represented all southeastern state forestry agencies at the Management Team Meeting of the **Forest Health Monitoring Program**. The team decides program direction for this national program funded by the Forest Service.
- **Southern pine beetle** traps were set up in southern Arkansas during the last week of February. These traps will provide an early warning if SPB abundance increases.
- Staff trained approximately 15 people to identify **southern pine beetle**.

**Urban Forestry Assistance:** Urban Forestry Program staff provides assistance and training to communities, educational institutions, non-profit organizations, developers and homeowners on urban tree care, inventory and management.

February 2019

- Reviewed Tree City USA applications and assisted several communities with the recertification process.
- Attended the Municipal Forestry Institute in Oregon, an intensive training covering leadership, program administration, coalition building, strategic thinking, program planning, and public relations in community forestry.
- Provided Master Gardener training on pruning trees in Hot Springs.
- Planned state Arbor Day celebration and certified arborist training workshop in conjunction with AR Urban Forestry Council.
- Wrote article for the AR Municipal League City & Town magazine about the Tree Streets organization.

**Reforestation:** AFC's tree improvement program strives to provide landowners with the highest possible genetic gain in pine and hardwood seed. One method AFC employs to achieve this objective is by establishing the highest genetic gain material in our newest pine and hardwood seed orchards. AFC Baucum Nursery then makes available to landowners the improved varieties of pine and hardwood, which are the net result of the tree improvement program.



With assistance from District 4, Reforestation Manager collected 10 year progeny data from 780 loblolly pine trees at David Barr test site which is about 5 miles south of Bodcaw.

Reforestation Manager, Administrative Assistant, Nursery Manager and Reforestation Foreman for Tree Improvement attended the AFC midyear check in meeting on February 14 at the U of A Cooperative Extension Service State Office.

**Baucum Nursery:** AFC's Baucum Nursery produces hardwood and pine seedlings for reforestation and afforestation efforts.

Year to date through February 28<sup>th</sup>, there were 629 online orders and 130 traditional orders.

Total sales of 1,137,275 pine and 5,943,600 hardwood.

Comparatively, in the same period in FY 18, there were 714 online orders and 166 traditional orders. Total sales of 1,391,050 pine and 5,132,900 hardwood.

- Lifting of 2019 crop was completed on February 28
- Lifted and packed the following during the month of February
  - 589,000 pine
  - 1,394,050 hardwood
  - 18,900 Containerized 3-star loblolly pine
  - 80,400 Containerized Advanced Gen shortleaf pine
  - Total seedlings packed = 2,082,350
- Shipped the following during the month of February
  - 14,700 Containerized 3-star loblolly pine
  - 69,250 Containerized Advanced Gen shortleaf pine
  - 1,077,550 hardwood
  - 363,950 pine
- Planted the following pounds of seed for the 2020 crop
  - Cow Oak                    1,150
  - Black Walnut            6,600
  - White Oak                4,900

### **Tree Improvement:**

During the month of February, the Bluff City Tree Improvement staff completed the following:

- Finished planting grafts in production orchards
- Collected scion material for grafting
- Flagged test at Hope Experiment Station
- Boxed and delivered 18,900 containerized 3-star loblolly pine to Baucum
- Made seedling deliveries for Baucum to AFC coolers in Stamps and El Dorado
- Grafted 325 pine
- Top grafted (about 20 ft. from the ground) in orchard 1719 on 40 trees. These top grafts are done as a shortcut process to change the clone in a particular position.

- Planted test at Hope, approximately 1,800 seedlings on 10ft x 10ft spacing. This test is a growth and yield study of containerized vs bare root loblolly pine seedlings.

**Best Management Practices:** AFC provides BMP training to loggers and timber companies, conducts courtesy exams prior or during timber harvest operations and addresses logging complaints.

BMP achieved the following in **February 2019**:

- Inspected Fulton County complaint, found to be valid, prepared and submitted report.
- Received complaint from Izard County, found to be invalid, referred back to Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ).
- Inspected Polk County complaint, found to be valid, prepared and submitted report.
- Strategic Plan update on BMP section.
- Meeting for Unit/Program Managers mid-year period.

**Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA):** AFC in cooperation with USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station is responsible for collecting scientific data from permanently established plots located all over the state. The plots, each representing 5,937 acres, are strategically located on a three-mile by three-mile grid. The inventory plots have been generating data since they were established in the 1950's. Natural resource managers use the data to make management decisions and follow Arkansas' natural resource trends through time.

FIA completed 48 plots during the month of February. Inventory 2018 is now 100% complete. Field work on the 2019 Inventory will begin in March.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

	<b>Balance</b>	
4020014000 TIMBER SEVERANCE	(332,401.04)	
** SR (3.0) - Taxes	(332,401.04)	
4030002000 ACREAGE TAX	(33,339.92)	
4031076000 FIRE PROTECT/SUPP	0.00	
** SR (1.5) - Taxes	(33,339.92)	
4038001000 TIMBER SALES	(257,874.64)	
4038003000 SEEDLING SALES	(15,164.00)	
** SR (1.5)- Sales of Agency Produced G	(273,038.64)	
4042001000 FINES	(60.00)	
** OR - Fines and Penalties	(60.00)	
4043002100 NBR LICENSE & PERMIT	0.00	
** OR - Licenses and Permits	0.00	
4044002000 FACILITIES RENT	(720.00)	
** OR - Rents	(720.00)	
4046002000 NON-OP DONATIONS	(150.00)	Fire Show Donation

4047002000 OTHER SALES	(29,624.95)	Fire Equipment
4047021000 OPERATING DONATIONS	0.00	
4047041000 VOLUME REBATES	(575.58)	WEX Rebate
4047099600 NBR - Other	0.00	
6200003000 Other Donations	0.00	
<b>** OR - Miscellaneous</b>	<b>(30,350.53)</b>	
4047001600 PAYMENT FOR SERVICES	(2,855.00)	Prescribed Burn/Fire Lane
4048001000 SALE COPIES PUBS	(439.50)	Trees of AR
4048019000 RESALES	(26,043.78)	Fire Equipment
4053001200 NBR SALE OF GDS & SV	0.00	
<b>** OR - Sales of Goods and Services</b>	<b>(29,338.28)</b>	
4049003000 INTEREST DISTRIB	(0.34)	
<b>** OR - Investment Revenue</b>	<b>(0.34)</b>	
4050001000 NONFED GRANTS/REIMB	0.00	
4050003000 OTH REFUNDS/REIMB	0.00	
4057003000 UTILITY REIMBUR	(112.96)	
<b>** OR - Grants and Reimbursements</b>	<b>(112.96)</b>	
4050004000 FED GRANTS/REIMBURSE	(307,990.16)	
4050004100 NBR - Grant Rev.	0.00	
<b>** Federal Grants and Reimbursements</b>	<b>(307,990.16)</b>	
4090010000 3% SPECIAL REV FEES	9,972.03	
4090020000 1.5% SPL REV FEES	4,595.68	
4090030000 ADDITIONAL SR FEES	485.59	
<b>** Treasury Charges</b>	<b>15,053.30</b>	
5010001000 00 Regular Salaries	781,516.55	
5010001100 NBR - Personal Svs.	0.00	
5010001600 NBR - Emp Benefits	0.00	
5010002000 01 Extra Help Sal	10,426.81	
5010003000 06 Overtime Salaries	47.63	
5010005000 03 FICA & Medic Exp	56,553.56	
5010006000 03 Ben Ins Exp HAL	118,860.00	
5010006500 Agency Cost of ARCAP	4,055.83	
5010007000 03 Retirement Exp	119,040.60	
5010009000 03 Worker Comp Exp	0.00	
5010010000 03 Work Comp Prem Tx	3,977.87	
5010011000 16 Fixed Uniform All	400.00	
<b>** Salary Expense</b>	<b>1,094,878.85</b>	
5020001000 Postage	651.86	
5020002000 Telecomm Wired	4,335.33	
5020003000 Telecomm Wireless	9,083.36	
5020004000 Network Services Exp	1,513.83	
5020004200 Internet Serv-Tech	0.00	
5020005000 Freight	180.91	
5020006000 NBR Com & Trans Com	0.00	
<b>** Communication &amp; Transp. of Commoditi</b>	<b>15,765.29</b>	
5030001000 Printing	0.00	
5030001100 02-Print-AgenPub	0.00	
5030001200 LEGAL/MEDICAL COPYIN	0.00	
5030002000 Bind Copy Collate	239.80	Brochures printed for Forestry Day, RFP



5030003000	Advertise Clip Svc	0.00	
5030004000	Film Processing	317.14	Commissioner portrait
5030004100	NBR Printing & Adv.	0.00	
<b>** Printing &amp; Advertising</b>		<b>556.94</b>	
5030005000	02-Bldg & Grds Maint	6,484.28	
5030005100	Pest Control CI 02	628.53	
5030005300	02 CHILLER MAINT	0.00	
5030007000	Hauling & Moving Exp	0.00	
5030008000	Office Equip Maint	0.00	
5030009000	Telephone Repair Svc	0.00	
5030010000	Pub Safety Eq Maint	1,947.91	
5030011000	Ind Inst Equip Maint	12,050.44	
5030011100	02 Farm Equip/Repair	2,003.22	
5030012000	02 - Vehicle Maint	22,708.58	
5030014000	Mar Avi Equip Maint	9,124.00	
5030017000	Software Maintenance	0.00	
5030021000	NBR - Repair & Serv.	689.48	
<b>** Repairing &amp; Servicing</b>		<b>55,636.44</b>	
5040001000	Electricity	12,359.96	
5040002000	Electric Special Use	0.00	
5040003000	Water & Sewage	1,589.97	
5040003100	02 Water	0.00	
5040004000	Natural Gas Propane	9,016.77	
5040005000	Rent of Facilities	3,729.50	
5040006000	Lease Private Land	100.00	
5040007000	Rent of Office Equip	1,956.94	
5040011000	Other Rent & Leases	111.32	
5040012000	NBR -Utilities & Ren	(71.88)	
5040013000	Satellite/cable Serv	0.00	
<b>** Utilities &amp; Rent</b>		<b>28,792.58</b>	
5050001000	02 Mileage	35.28	
5050002000	09 Mileage	0.00	
5050003100	02 - Meals	1,150.37	
5050003200	02 - Lodging	4,022.99	
5050004100	09 - Meals	477.60	
5050004200	09 - Lodging	640.05	
5050005000	02 Common Carrier	1,002.00	
5050006000	09 Common Carrier	636.60	
5050009000	02 Ground Transport	35.50	
5050010000	09 Ground Transport	0.00	
5050011000	02 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	78.89	
5050011100	02 VALIDATED PARKING	0.00	
5050012000	09 PRKNG FEES TRAVEL	65.42	
5050013000	02 Other Travel Exp	0.00	
5050017000	02 Conf Seminar Fees	60.00	
5050018000	09 Conf Seminar Fees	155.00	
5050019100	Board Member Expense	607.32	
5050020400	02BdMbr Trvl Mileage	(73.08)	
5050023000	NBR Travel/Sub CI 02	0.00	



5050024000	NBR Travel/Sub Cl 09	0.00	
5050027000	09 Ag Sponsored Conf	0.00	
**	Travel & Subsistence	8,893.94	
5060001000	Professional Adm Fee	48,305.00	Western Pilot; SPST
5060001400	02 WC ADMIN FEE EXP	0.00	
5060016000	NBR PROSVS & FEES	237.81	
5080015000	02 MiscTech SrvNonIT	649.00	
5080015050	02 MiscTech Srv-IT	0.00	
**	Professional Services & Fees	49,191.81	
5070001000	Surety Perform Bonds	0.00	
5070002000	Vehicle Insurance	0.00	
5070003000	Bld Contents Ins	0.00	
5070007000	Other Insurance	0.00	
**	Insurance & Bonds	0.00	
5080001000	M&R Service Fees	0.00	
5080006000	Assoc Member Dues	0.00	
5080009000	Janitorial Service	570.68	
5080011000	02-CONTRACT FOOD SER	0.00	
5080014000	Trash Pickup Service	652.25	
5080016000	Temp Employ Svc	9,329.95	Baucum Nursery
5080018000	Salv Demolish Remove	0.00	
5080019000	Veh Lic Title Fees	0.00	
5080020000	Enforce Invest Exp	0.00	
5080020500	02 NONEMPL BCKGRD CK	66.00	
5080029000	NBR - Other Exp, Svs	3,432.98	
5080031000	02 Empl Screen Cost	335.00	Employment screening costs
5080033000	Educational Costs	0.00	
**	Other Expenses & Services	14,386.86	
5090001000	Road Pub Area Mats	0.00	
5090002000	Natural Res Supps	433.99	
5090003000	Special Purpose Supp	12.53	
5090004000	Tires	10,184.67	
5090005000	02 GASOLINE PURCH	19,280.74	
5090005100	02 DIESEL FUEL PURCH	15,523.26	
5090005200	02 AVIATION FUEL	2,945.67	
5090006000	Office Supplies	4,645.03	
5090007000	Educ Supplies Mats	2,091.30	
5090011000	Photo Supps Mats	25.64	
5090012000	Architect Draft Supp	140.40	
5090013000	02-Pub Safe,Mil Sups	0.00	
5090014000	Drugs & Medicines	0.00	
5090015000	Health Lab Supps	1,286.63	
5090016000	Shop Indust Supps	7,639.61	
5090018000	Subscriptions Pubs	449.85	
5090019000	Food Purchases	2,729.64	
5090020000	02-Clothing,Rel Item	765.98	
5090022000	02-Kit,Jan,House Sup	574.79	
5090023000	Seed Fert Cont Agent	49,461.71	
5090025000	Agri Hort WL Supps	8,740.75	

5090026000 DP Supps	3,086.86
5090027000 Software/Licenses	1,800.00
5090030000 Other Comm Mat Supp	0.00
5090036000 NBR - Comm, Mat, Sup	249.39
5090037000 Equip Fire Vehicles	20,769.64
5900004000 LVA Exp (Modified)	0.00
5901070000 LVA Exp Full	0.00
<b>** Commodities, Materials &amp; Supplies</b>	<b>152,838.08</b>
5100001000 04 Assist Grants Aid	8,700.00
5100005100 02-SPONSORSHIPS	0.00
<b>** Assistance, Grants &amp; Aids</b>	<b>8,700.00</b>
5110002000 02 Other Refunds	0.00
5110008000 License & Permits	0.00
5110010000 Real Property Tax	463.29
5110015000 NBR Ref Taxes Claims	0.00
<b>** Refunds, Taxes &amp; Claims</b>	<b>463.29</b>
6080001300 RefExpSlesTaxRebate	0.00
6080001301 RefExpUseTaxRebate	0.00
<b>** Refunds</b>	<b>0.00</b>
5900003000 Capital Outlay	304,314.00
<b>** Capital Outlay</b>	<b>304,314.00</b>
5901020000 Depr Expense (Full)	127,183.74
<b>** Depreciation/Amortization</b>	<b>127,183.74</b>
6100002000 GainLoss FA(Full)	0.00
<b>** Gain/Loss on Fixed Assets</b>	<b>0.00</b>
5130030300 Inter fedxout-warr04	4,467.37
6060003000 Inter-Agy Xfers In	0.00
6060003100 INTER XFER IN REBATE	(1.55)
6060004200 InterAgy FedRev X In	0.00
6060004299 NBR Fed Rev XFER In	0.00
6060004500 IntraAgy GR Tran-In	(776,000.00)
6060006800 FS Adj Op Trans In	0.00
6060007200 M & R Transfers In	(8,235.75)
6060009000 Motor Veh Tfr In	0.00
6061002000 Intra-Agy Xfers Out	0.00
6061004100 GR RECLAIM XFER OUT	0.00
6061004299 NBR Fed Rev XFR Out	0.00
6061006800 FS Adj Op Trans Out	0.00
6061006820 Tran Out to CompUnit	0.00
6061008400 Claims Com. Tr. Out	0.00
6061009000 Motor Veh Tfr Out	96,932.00
<b>** Transfers In/Out</b>	<b>(682,837.93)</b>
6990001000 Prior Yr Warr Outlaw	0.00
6990002000 Prior Yr Warr Cancel	0.00
6990003000 Prior Yr Ref to Exp	0.00
6990004000 Prior Year Adjust	0.00
<b>** Prior Year Adjustment</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>*** BALANCE</b>	<b>0.00</b>

Dozers (2)